



Professional

Social Work in East Africa

Towards Social Development, Poverty
Reduction and Gender Equality

Editors

H. Spitzer • J. M. Twikirize

• G. G. Wairire

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Contents

	<i>Professional Social Work in East Africa: A Foreword</i>	v
	<i>James Midgley</i>	
	<i>Preface: Trans-cultural Spaces of Knowledge</i>	ix
	<i>Andreas J. Obrecht</i>	
	<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xii
	<i>About the Editors and Authors</i>	xiv
	<i>Map of Africa Showing East African Countries</i>	xviii
1.	PROSOWO: A Project to Professionalise Social Work in East Africa.....	1
	<i>Helmut Spitzer and Janestic M. Twikirize</i>	
Part I:	Theoretical Perspectives and Reflections	13
2.	Social Work in African Contexts: A Cross-cultural Reflection on Theory and Practice.....	15
	<i>Helmut Spitzer</i>	
3.	Social Work and Poverty Reduction in Africa: The Indelible Reality	29
	<i>Vishanthie Sewpaul</i>	
4.	A Developmental Perspective in Social Work Theory and Practice.....	43
	<i>Antoinette Lombard</i>	
5.	Gender Perspectives in Poverty Reduction and Social Development	56
	<i>Janestic M. Twikirize</i>	
6.	Indigenisation of Social Work in Africa: Debates, Prospects and Challenges.....	75
	<i>Janestic M. Twikirize</i>	
PART II:	The Origin and Status of Social Work in East Africa	91
7.	The State of Social Work Education and Practice in Kenya.....	93
	<i>Gidraph G. Wairire</i>	
8.	The Status of Social Work Education and Practice in Rwanda	108
	<i>Charles Kalinganire and Charles Rutikanga</i>	
9.	The Development of Social Work Education and Practice in Tanzania	121
	<i>Zena M. Mabeyo</i>	
10.	Social Work Education and Practice in Uganda: A Historical Perspective.....	136
	<i>Janestic M. Twikirize</i>	
11.	Social Work in Burundi's Post-conflict Society.....	149
	<i>Helmut Spitzer, Jacqueline Murekasenge and Susan Muchiri</i>	
12.	Social Work Education in Ethiopia: Celebrating the Rebirth of the Profession.....	161
	<i>Wassie Kebede</i>	

PART III: The Role of Social Work in Poverty Reduction: Empirical Findings.....	173
13. Breaking New Grounds: Conceptual and Methodological Framework of a Regional Research Project.....	175
<i>Helmut Spitzer and Janestic M. Twikirize</i>	
14. Professional Social Work in East Africa: Empirical Evidence.....	189
<i>Janestic M. Twikirize, Helmut Spitzer, Gidraph G. Wairire, Zena M. Mabeyo and Charles Rutikanga</i>	
15. Social Work Perspectives in Poverty Reduction and Social Development in Kenya.....	217
<i>Gidraph G. Wairire and Christopher N. Kiboro</i>	
16. Social Development as the Privileged Model for Social Work Practice in Post-genocide Rwanda.....	232
<i>Charles Kalinganire and Charles Rutikanga</i>	
17. Redefining the Role of Social Work in the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and Social Development in Tanzania.....	245
<i>Zena M. Mabeyo</i>	
18. Contemporary Social Work in Uganda: Towards Poverty Reduction and Social Development.....	258
<i>Narathius Asingwire and Janestic M. Twikirize</i>	
PART IV: Social Policy, Gender and Conflict: The Role of Social Work.....	269
19. Land Issues in Rwanda: Gender Perspectives and Social Work Implications.....	271
<i>Jeannette Bayisenge</i>	
20. Interrogating the Role of Social Work in Social Policy Reforms in Uganda: A Case of Demand-driven Approach for Rural Safe Water Delivery.....	287
<i>Narathius Asingwire</i>	
21. NGOs and Child-sensitive Social Protection Programming in Uganda.....	298
<i>Eddy J. Walakira, Ismael Ddumba-Nyanzi and Badru Bukonya</i>	
22. Integrating Social Work Services into Schools: A Case for School Social Work in Uganda.....	315
<i>Ronald Luwangula and Sabrina Riedl</i>	
23. Social Work in a Post-war Setting: Culture and Gender Dimensions during the Recovery of the Acholi Sub-region in Northern Uganda.....	333
<i>Julius Omona</i>	
24. Armed Conflict and Political Violence in Africa's Great Lakes Region: Challenges for Social Work Education and Practice.....	351
<i>Helmut Spitzer and Janestic M. Twikirize</i>	
PART V: The Way Forward.....	371
25. A Vision for Social Work in East Africa.....	373
<i>Helmut Spitzer and Janestic M. Twikirize</i>	
Index.....	385

Prevalent poverty and related problems in the East African region call for substantial action from various stakeholders, including social workers. This book, based on comprehensive empirical research, portrays an emerging yet powerful profession that has a significant role to play in the endeavour towards social development, social justice, human rights and gender equality. The book is the first of its kind to provide first-hand theoretical and empirical evidence about social work in East Africa.

The book raises the question of what social work's proper role and function should be in the context of East Africa's cultural, demographic, economic and political circumstances, and it is in this regard that it makes a particularly important international contribution.

James Midgley, Harry & Riva Specht Professor of Public Social Services, University of California, Berkeley, USA

This comprehensive scholarly book on social work in East Africa is a most welcome addition to the global literature on professional social work. Insightful chapters on poverty reduction, development, gender perspectives and the state of social work will interest readers from around the world and serve as essential material for the region. It is an impressive milestone in advancing locally authored social work literature.

Lynne M. Healy (PhD), Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor, University of Connecticut, USA

This is a cutting edge, innovative volume which considers the proper role and function of social work in East Africa. The book is both comprehensive and extensive in its coverage of issues, and will immensely enrich the discourse on the *in vogue* theme of social development. Diverse groups, including scholars, researchers, planners and policy-makers interested in social work and social development in Africa will certainly find the publication a 'must consult' reference resource.

Rodreck Mupedziswa (PhD), Professor and Head, Department of Social Work, University of Botswana

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